



State Representative
STEVE DARGAN

West Haven

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2013 Legislative Update

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I want to thank you for your support and for allowing me the opportunity to serve another term as your representative in the Connecticut General Assembly. I consider it an honor to hold such responsibility.

We are all facing difficult times in Connecticut and throughout the country. I am committed to moving towards a more efficient government while ensuring the protection of our most vulnerable citizens and keeping essential services properly funded.

The 2013 Legislative Session is now underway. I have been re-appointed Chair of the Public Safety Committee and will also serve on the Executive Legislative Nominations and the Insurance & Real Estate Committees.

Please keep in touch and contact me should you have any issues or concerns. I can be reached at the Capitol by calling (860) 240-8585 or toll-free at 1-800-842-8267. I am convinced that with your input and support, we can address the most pressing needs of our community.

Thank you for granting me the honor of serving you.

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Job Growth Is Number One

To keep Connecticut economically competitive with neighboring states, we must further encourage business growth and job creation. As a state we need to attract businesses to West Haven and continue to support the businesses that are already here, especially the businesses that are hiring residents of West Haven and Connecticut. Consolidating and increasing tax credits for new hires, investing in emerging technologies and providing more employment for our veterans have shown great success but more needs to be done. Building a more educated workforce and a more business-friendly climate will allow Connecticut to thrive in the future.

Supporting Our Seniors

Helping our seniors in their later years is an important responsibility of government. Seniors face a variety of challenges such as maintaining their health and keeping up with the bills on a fixed income. The legislature supports seniors in a number of ways

including sending state funds to towns that help stabilize local property taxes and passing tough consumer protection laws. Looking ahead, expect to see proposals to help seniors keep their independence as their healthcare needs increase. A special task force on “aging in place” is recommending ways to help older adults safely, independently and comfortably remain in their homes.

Public Safety

Public safety is an issue that is very important to our state and district. The tragic events in Newtown proved that we need to change the way we address gun safety and safety in our schools. I look forward to the discussion in the Committee on Public Safety and Security this session as we address these issues and how they affect the citizens of Connecticut.

Education

We still must strive to make our schools a top priority in 2013 as they face new challenges. In 2012, the legislature passed historic educational reforms, and now we must continue the work of implementing those important changes. Educating today’s students for 21st Century jobs means closely aligning vocational-technical schools and community colleges with the needs of Connecticut industries. There are significant challenges we must overcome to ensure not only the success of our children, but also Connecticut’s prosperity.